(d) Yes, Sir. Around 10,000 tons of FCV Tobacco is yet to be exported to Russia.

(e) Minimum Export Prices' of grades meant for export to Russia were as follows:

Grade 4	Rs. 58.00
LBY/LG	Rs. 56.00
LBY 2	Rs. 48.50

(f) Delay is due to non-opening of Letter of Credits by the Russian importing organization

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Export of Tuna Fish

718. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that MPEDA has explored the possibility of increasing tuna fish exports from the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what are the annual exports of tuna, Volume-wise and in terms of foreign exchange in 1991-92 and 1992-93 ; and

(c) the main ports through which tuna fish is exported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) There is limited scope for export of coastal tuna due to high content of red meat in it. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) encourages off shore (deep sea) tuna fishing. At present two fishing companies from Andhra Pradesh have acquired tuna long liners from their foreign collaborators under 100 per cent ECJ scheme for tuna fishing in Indian EEZ for exports.

(b) The information is as under :

	Exports of tuna	
	1991-92	1992-93 (provisional)
Quantity (Tonnes)	212	507
Value (Rs. Lakh)	53.79	142.71

(Source: MPEDA)

(c) Main ports through which tuna fish is exported are Madras (Tamil Nadu), Kandla (Gujarat) and Panaji (Goa).

Change in Objectives of ITPO

719. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a change in the original objectives of India Trade Promotion Organisation;

(b) whether Government have issued directions to ITPO to commercialise the institution;

(c) what are the reasons for reducing the importance of trade promotion

and encouragement of new exporters and participation of small scale industry in exhibitions conducted or sponsored by ITPO;

(d) whether it is also a fact that ITPO is reducing the importance of trade promotion in favour of charging high fees from Indian entrepreneurs for its services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) ITPO has not reduced the importance of trade promotion. ITPO encourages promotion of trade particularly exports, through various means including participation in trade fairs abroad, buyer-seller meets, India Promotions etc. So far as encouragement of new exporters and participation of small scale industrial units is concerned, 25 per cent space is reserved for new exporters and 5 per cent of space is kept for women entrepreneurs in trade fairs abroad. Further, registered small scale units participating in such fairs through ITPO are given 10 per cent additional concession on the subsidized package of services rendered to participants by ITPO.

(d) No, Sir. The fee charged by ITPO depends on the estimated cost. In order to reduce the cost of participation, subsidy is given ranging between 25 per cent and 75 per cent, depending on the event. However, in order to reduce dependence upon Government grant, ITPO has started organising participation in some selected fairs abroad, on self-financing basis. For such fairs, entire cost is borne by the participants themselves proportionately and no subsidy is provided.

Agricultural Exports from Andhra Pradesh

720. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact hat Government are embarking upon a programme to encourage and stimulate agricultural exports;

(b) if so, the details of the programme;

(c) whether any products of Andhra Pradesh from the agricultural sector have been identified for exports;

(d) if so, the names of such agricultural products with export potential from Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) what are the details of export potential of such agricultural products from Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government is giving special attention to the growth of exports in the agricultural sector. The establishment of export oriented units in this sector is being given high priority. It has been decided that such units can avail of the benefits of duty-free imports under the EOU/EPZ scheme even if they export 50 per cent of their production. They can sell the remaining 50 per cent in the domestic market as against the limit of 25 per cent permitted for non-agricultural sector. The definition of 'capital goods' under the new EXIM Policy has been widened to cover capital goods used in agriculture and allied activities so that units in this sector can avail of the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme for importing